



Washington State Department of **General Administration**

Innovative and Responsive - GA Helps Our Customers Succeed.

Our Services

General Administration (GA) is the main support agency for state government. We manage the planning, construction, and remodeling of state facilities all over Washington. We are the stewards of the State Capitol Campus. We deliver mail, provide motor pool vehicles, and lease space for public facilities. We develop contracts for goods and services used by state agencies and local governments.

Regulating Camping on State Capitol Grounds

GA is proposing a rule to prohibit camping on state capitol grounds:

- "Camping on the state capitol grounds is prohibited unless permitted by the Director of the Department of General Administration. Camping means arranging any type of structure, shelter or bedding, or parking a vehicle, for purposes of habitation."

Why is this Rule Necessary?

The people working, visiting, or exercising their rights to free speech and assembly on the Capitol Campus expect and require a safe, secure, and healthful environment. GA is proposing this rule to:

- Control unauthorized camping activities that create public health, safety, or security risks.
- Enable persons exercising their rights to free speech and assembly to obtain authorization for vigils and other similar activities.

From 1976 to 1999, GA had a rule prohibiting all camping on state capitol grounds as part of our traffic regulations. In 1999, GA repealed this rule. We intended to remove the rule from the traffic section and return, in the near future, with a clearer regulation.

This new rule will be placed with the rules governing demonstrations, parades, and other similar activities on state capitol grounds. We have worked to balance the important interests of access, safety, and security.

Next Steps

Oct. 1, 2003 File draft rule with the Code Revisers Office
Oct. 15, 2003 Publish notice of Public Hearing
Nov. 5, 2003 Hold Public Hearing, GA Auditorium, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Dec. 1, 2003 Director's decision on Rule Adoption
Jan. 1, 2004 Rule takes effect

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